

Application No. 09/245,596

a cutting assembly slidably mounted to said frame for sliding along a movement axis toward and away from said receiving area;

a cutting blade connecting to said cutting assembly, said cutting blade including a cutting edge facing said receiving area; and

3 a driver connected and in engagement with said cutting assembly for imparting sliding motion to said cutting assembly to move said cutting blade along the movement axis toward and away from said receiving area, wherein said cutting edge of said cutting blade remains substantially parallel to the substantially flat cutting surface during movement along the movement axis, wherein said cutting edge of said cutting blade abuts against said substantially flat cutting surface during a cutting operation, and wherein the movement axis of said cutting blade has a first component of movement extending in a direction substantially parallel to said cutting surface and a second component of movement extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to said cutting surface.

Cancel claim 39.

Application No. 09/245,596

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS:

38. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for cutting a window covering to a specified length comprising:

a base having a substantially flat cutting surface;

a frame overlying said cutting surface and mounted to said base, said frame and said cutting surface defining a receiving area therebetween for receiving a window covering;

a cutting assembly slidably mounted to said frame for sliding along a movement axis toward and away from said receiving area;

a cutting blade connecting to said cutting assembly, said cutting blade including a cutting edge facing said receiving area; and

a driver connected and in engagement with said cutting assembly for imparting sliding motion to said cutting assembly to move said cutting blade along the movement axis toward and away from said receiving area, wherein said cutting edge of said cutting blade remains substantially parallel to the substantially flat cutting surface during movement along the movement axis, wherein said cutting edge of said cutting blade abuts against said substantially flat cutting surface during a cutting operation, and wherein the movement axis of said cutting blade has a first component of movement extending in a direction substantially parallel to said cutting surface and a second component of movement extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to said cutting surface.